

REMARKS


Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

By the present preliminary amendment the claims are amended to no longer recite any multiple dependencies, and subject matter of the canceled multiple dependencies is now set forth in new dependent claims 8-23. The claim amendments are not believed to raise any issues of new matter, or to narrow the claims in any aspect.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599
Surinder Sachar
Registration No. 34,423

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

GJM/SNS/law
I:\ATTY\SNS\264121US-PR.DOC